

FATHOM THIS!

The monthly newsletter from San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

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Welcome to the May issue of Fathom This! and to beautiful spring weather (finally) in the Bay Area! San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park is your national park on San Francisco's historic waterfront. Hours to visit the fleet of historic floating vessels berthed at Hyde Street Pier, and to explore exhibits in the Visitor Center are daily, 9:30am-5:00pm. There is free admission to the Visitor Center and to walk Hyde Street Pier. To board the floating vessels: Adults, \$5 (ticket good for seven days from date of purchase), ages 15 and under, free. Free with national park passes. The ticket booth is located halfway up Hyde Street Pier. For information on all programs and events offered by the park, and by its cooperating San Francisco Maritime National Park Association (SFMNPA), please see the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/safr/>, and the SFMNPA website at <http://www.maritime.org>. The park's Visitor Center can be reached at 415-447-5000.

Fathom This! is sent monthly. Feel free to forward it, and enter it whole or in part into blogs. To receive it monthly, or to cancel, just send an email to the editor at peter_kasin@nps.gov. Your name and email address is never sold or loaned.

WELCOME NEW PARK RANGER JOSEPH HOOPER

We welcome the newest addition to our staff of park rangers, Joseph Michael Hooper. Born in Vallejo, CA and raised in Vacaville, where he was involved in football, baseball, track and wrestling. Joseph graduated from Vacaville High School in 1999. Following high school, he entered the U.S. Army as a combat medic. Serving in both Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and Operation Iraqi Freedom, he obtained the Combat Medic Badge for treating patients while under fire. After returning from military service, he obtained a B.A. in Psychology from California State University, Sacramento.

When Joseph was asked about obtaining the park ranger job here at SF Maritime, he replied "It was a gift from God. The best part of this position is making people happy, seeing their smile as you excite them and connect them to their maritime history."

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

May is national Asian / Pacific American Heritage Month. Join us as we celebrate it with programs on San Francisco Chinese maritime history. Bring family and friends to explore a replica SF Bay Chinese junk, and discover the story of Chinese laborers who sailed to Alaska.

CHINESE CANNERY WORKERS

Sunday, May 9, 3:00pm. meets aboard Balclutha. Vessel admission fees apply.

On this walking tour of *Balclutha* led by park ranger Carol Kiser, you will learn about the lives and cultural contributions of Chinese laborers who sailed from San Francisco to Alaska for the great salmon runs. Before or after the tour, view a film aboard ship about the years *Balclutha* sailed to Alaska under the name *Star Of Alaska*.

CHINESE SHRIMP JUNK GRACE QUAN RAISES SAIL

Saturdays, May 8, 3:00pm, and May 22nd, 1:00pm. Meets on Hyde Street Pier. No fee.

Grace Quan is a replica of a 19th century San Francisco shrimp junk. Join park ranger Jordan Yee to learn about the history of shrimping on the Bay and watch *Grace Quan's* sail being raised. Adults and kids are invited to come aboard and haul a net, explore the crew's cabin, and take a turn at the tiller.

ALMA SAILING SEASON BEGINS

Saturdays, May 15 and 22, 1:00-4:00pm. Rates: \$35 adult through May, (goes to \$40 June-November) \$30 seniors, \$20 ages 6-15. Ages 5 and under, free. Reservations: 415-447-5000. Tickets purchased on day of sail at Hyde Street Pier ticket booth (opens 9:30am). Wheelchair accessible with assistance.

Haul lines to raise sails as you explore the Bay aboard the historic scow schooner *Alma*! Take in dazzling views and San Francisco's riveting maritime history: Native Americans, Spanish explorers, the Gold Rush, the Barbary Coast, Fisherman's Wharf, and more. The last of her kind, the *Alma* will transport you to a long ago era on this hands-on educational sailing program. Bring sunglasses, sunscreen, a bag lunch (no alcoholic drinks), and dress warmly, in layers.

KLEBINGAT LECTURE SERIES: TOM CREAN - SAILOR ON ICE

Saturday, May 8, 6:00pm. In the Maritime Library, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Donation: \$5 general, \$4 Maritime Library Friends and San Francisco Maritime National Park Association members.

David Hirzel, author of the forthcoming book, *Tom Crean - Sailor On Ice*, will tell the story of the Antarctic adventures of Irish sailor and explorer Tom Crean. There are more famous names than Crean's from the "heroic age" of Antarctic exploration, but there are few stories as compelling as his. Time and again he was one of three, and at times the only one, whose courage in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds saved the lives of his companions.

The library is open the 3rd Saturday of the month, 10am-5pm. Also by appointment, M-F afternoons. Appointments: 415-561-7030, or ring doorbell. Immediate appointments usually available.

MARITIME SKILLS CLASS: *PELICAN* SAILING AND RACING SERIES

Tuesdays, May 11 and 18, 5:30pm - sunset. Tuition: Free! Adults and kids welcome. Meets on Hyde Street Pier 's small craft dock. 9 students maximum. To register: Please call Mariah Gardner, 415-292-6664, or mgardner@maritime.org, or Seth Muir, 415-215-6291, or smuir@maritime.org.

Come join us for a friendly racing series aboard our small fleet of *Pelican* boats. This is a great way to improve your maritime craft skills, try out racing, and make new friends. Social events to follow! Lifejackets are provided.

NEW IN HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

Historic Documents Department located on the top floor of the Maritime Library, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Appointments: 415-561-7030.

The park has recently acquired several historic photographs to add to the vast collection of maritime photographs held in Historic Documents. Research your maritime history and view the vessels and people of a bygone era.

The Captain C.H. Anderson photographs of coastal schooners (SAFR 22249, P92-064) are two mounted prints of schooners mastered by C.H. Anderson of San Francisco. The photographer and locations are unknown. The Robert G. Manette photograph collection (SAFR 22244, P91-066) consists of 103 photographs from a variety of steamship companies collected by Manette, who was an employee of the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand. They date from 1897 to 1982, with the bulk dating from 1926 to 1971.

LINKS

<http://www.nps.gov/safr/> San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

<http://www.maritime.org> San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, the park's nonprofit member supported cooperating association.

<http://www.maritimelibraryfriends.org> Friends of the San Francisco Maritime Museum Library, the park library's nonprofit member supported cooperating association.

<http://www.hydestreetlivinghistory.org> The park Living History Program's volunteer created and managed website.

<http://www.corsair-viking.org> The San Francisco Sea Scouts, the park's neighboring partner in Aquatic Park.

This publication is strictly for informational purposes and does not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the Department of Interior, the National Park Service, or the Park.